

**From:** Spring Branch Speaks <updates@springbranchspeaks.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2011 1:10 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Spring Branch Speaks - Call to Action #8: CONTACT HOUSE REPS TODAY: Choose the Eissler Plan

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## Spring Branch Speaks ... to make our voices heard in Austin.

**These may be the final days of the fight to protect our schools...PLEASE READ ON AND ACT!**

On Friday night, a budget deal was announced by the Lt. Governor and Speaker that funds public education to the level in the Senate budget. While the Senate budget is \$4 billion less than needed to fund at current student levels, it is the best-case scenario for this legislative session. We consider this a "win" for public education.

But the fight is not done...today the House of Representatives will debate how to allocate funding to each school district. We hear that there are at least two plans that will be presented to the House for consideration: The Eissler Plan (by Rep. Eissler) and the Hochberg Amendment (by Rep. Hochberg). In an email last week we asked you to contact our local Representative to vote NO to the Hochberg Amendment, and it was never brought to debate. Both allocation plans are expected to come up today or tomorrow.

***Spring Branch Speaks* believes Eissler's Plan is the best choice for our neighborhood schools. Here's why:**

The Eissler Plan:

- Includes a 6% across-the-board cut equally shared by all school districts. No district is singled out to bear a higher level of cuts. And with some federal funding money that Texas received for education, the net cut to SBISD in 2011/2012 could be as low as 3.5%.
- The cuts that SBISD has already announced would be sufficient. There will be no "second wave" of cuts to our schools.

The Hochberg Amendment:

- The district-to-district cuts are not allocated fairly. SBISD would lose 10% in 2011-2012, and the cuts grow to 14% in 2012-2013. Cuts in the third year are expected to be even larger.
- Many districts are cut miniscule amounts, and some even make money under this plan.
- SBISD would be forced to cut an additional 23 MILLION more than already planned. *Our schools would have to absorb another round of significant cuts in the 2012 -2013 school year.* This would be devastating to programs and classrooms.

**CALL TO ACTION**

**Success in the next few days will mean SBISD will be able to keep millions more of**

**our taxpayer dollars in our classrooms, instead of sending them to the state.** Please make a quick call or send an email today to our local Representatives with the following messages:

- Vote YES to Rep. Eissler's Plan for education funding allocation. The Eissler Plan is the most equitable way in the face of large cuts to public schools.
- Vote NO to the Hochberg Amendment for education funding allocation. The Hochberg Amendment cuts are not fairly spread among districts.

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Thank you in advance for your quick response. We are in the final week of this legislative session, so please keep up the great work speaking loud and clear to our lawmakers in Austin.

### **[Spring Branch Speaks](#)**

*Parent-organized community outreach with SBISD in mind.*

(Forward this email to your family and friends - ask them to join, too:  
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